1	2	3	4
20.	Nagaland	1.24	401
21.	Orissa	48.49	23579
22.	Punjab	7.14	13874
23.	Rajasthan	24.32	20861
24.	Sikkim	0.43	1071
25.	Tamil Nadu	11.18	27995
26.	Tripura	2.95	1434
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	74788
28.	Uttaranchal	4.98	7332
29.	West Bengal	47.32	20430
30.	A & N Islands	0.15	488
31.	Chandigarh	0.07	56
32.	D & N Haveli	0.16	78
33.	Daman & Diu	0.05	51
34.	Lakshadweep	0.01	35
35.	Pondicherry	0.97	408
	TOTAL :	814.30	476973

Disposal of foodgrain stock from FCI godowns

896. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 20,000 tonnes of foodgrain stock has been lying in the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns;

(b) if so, the rationale behind keeping such an old stock of foodgrains in the godowns;

(c) the efforts made by Government for disposal of the old stock of foodgrains; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for timely disposal of such stocks in good condition to good performing States like Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) As on 1st November, 2004 a total stock of 109.99 lakh MT of foodgrains was available with the FCI out of which the stock of 57,560 MT of foodgrains was more than three years old. These old stocks represent only 0.63 percent of the total foodgrains stocks of the FCI.

(b) to (d) The old stocks of foodgrains are already being issued on priority under the First In First Out (FIFO) principle against various allocations for the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Welfare Schemes to States/UTs.

Strengthening TPDS

897. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had taken a decision to strengthen the Targeted Public Distribution System;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the States have been asked to first procure and distribute foodgrains locally and then contribute the surplus to the Central Pool;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government had accepted all the recommendations of an earlier meet of State Food Ministers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The scheme of Decentralized Procurement of foodgrains was introduced by the Government in 1997-98. Under the Decentralized Procurement scheme, the State Governments procure, store and distribute foodgrains under TPDS and other welfare schemes. The surplus foodgrains are transferred in the Central Pool.

The State Government of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat have been undertaking Decentralized Procurement.